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Jeff Beno

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:

HELEN BRAVEN, ET AL.

Serial No.: To be assigned

International Application Filing Date:  
11 February 2003

For: NUCLEIC ACID PROBES, THEIR  
SYNTHESIS AND USE

Group Art Unit: To be assigned

Examiner: To be assigned

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

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Sir:

Prior to the examination of the above-captioned patent application, Applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendments.